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**LINKAMERICA**

*Broadband Public Policy Update | July 9, 2010*

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## **I. Broadband Stimulus Updates**

- A. The first 29 Round 2 BTOP awards were announced as part of a speech by President Obama and are available at:  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/remarks-president-monthly-employment-numbers>
- B. A full list of these awards, with BTOP awards highlighted in yellow, is available at:  
[http://www2.ntia.doc.gov/files/WH\\_Broadband\\_Award\\_Roster.pdf](http://www2.ntia.doc.gov/files/WH_Broadband_Award_Roster.pdf)
- C. A background document is available at:  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/background-presidents-recovery-act-announcement-tomorrow>
- D. Individual grant fact sheets are available through the Grants Awarded section of this site:  
<http://www2.ntia.doc.gov/GrantsAwarded>

## **II. Congressional Updates**

- A. The U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation announces a Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Insurance Subcommittee hearing on protecting youths in an online world. The hearing will take place on July 15, 2010 at 2:00 pm ET in Russell Senate Office Building-Room 253.  
[http://commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=Hearings&ContentRecord\\_id=76cbf5c2-aca6-454a-839d-19be2a28a6e6&ContentType\\_id=14f995b9-dfa5-407a-9d35-56cc7152a7ed&Group\\_id=b06c39af-e033-4cba-9221-de668ca1978a](http://commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=Hearings&ContentRecord_id=76cbf5c2-aca6-454a-839d-19be2a28a6e6&ContentType_id=14f995b9-dfa5-407a-9d35-56cc7152a7ed&Group_id=b06c39af-e033-4cba-9221-de668ca1978a)
- B. On July 8, 2010, the U.S. House Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet held a field hearing entitled "Comcast and NBC Universal: Who Benefits?" in Chicago, Illinois. A briefing memo and a list of witnesses along with their individual testimonies are available at the following link:  
[http://energycommerce.house.gov/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=2050:field-hearing-on-qcomcast-and-nbc-universal-who-benefitsq&catid=134:subcommittee-on-communications-technology-and-the-internet&Itemid=74](http://energycommerce.house.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=2050:field-hearing-on-qcomcast-and-nbc-universal-who-benefitsq&catid=134:subcommittee-on-communications-technology-and-the-internet&Itemid=74)

### **III. Federal Agency News and Proceedings**

#### **A. Department of Commerce**

U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke, joined by Senator John Kerry, Governor Deval Patrick and Representatives John Olver and Richard Neal, today announced a \$45.4 million American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Act) investment to help bridge the technological divide, boost economic growth, create jobs, and improve education and healthcare in Massachusetts.

<http://www.commerce.gov/blog/2010/07/08/secretary-locke-mass-officials-announce-454-million-recovery-act-investment-broadband>

#### **B. Department of Health and Human Services**

On July 7, 2010, HHS released a grant notice for funding totaling \$14 Million for qualified entities to serve as Regional centers within the Extension Program consisting of national Health Information Technology Research Center (HITRC), and Regional Extension Centers (Regional Centers).

<http://www.grants.gov/search/search.do?mode=VIEW&opId=55665>

#### **C. Federal Communications Commission (FCC)**

On July 8, 2010, FCC releases a Report and Order to conclude the Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for the Fiscal Year 2010.

[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/FCC-10-123A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/FCC-10-123A1.pdf)

On July 8, 2010, FCC announces an Open Commission Meeting Thursday, July 15, 2010.

[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DOC-299682A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-299682A1.pdf)

On July 7, 2010, FCC announces that the FCC's Technology Showcase to Mark the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Americans with Disabilities Act, previously scheduled for Monday, July 19 at the FCC Headquarters, will now be held on the same date, in the Main Foyer at the Department of Commerce, 1401 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC from 11 AM to 3 PM.

[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DOC-299651A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-299651A1.pdf)

On July 7, 2010, the Media Bureau today announced the agenda for its July 13, 2010, public forum being held from 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Northwestern University Law School, Thorne Auditorium, 375 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611. The two-panel forum will discuss the Comcast/NBCU/GE joint venture proposal, followed by a public comment period on the proposed transaction.

[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DOC-299648A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-299648A1.pdf)

On July 6, 2010, FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski announced today the appointment of Rick Kaplan as Chief Counsel and Senior Legal Advisor. He will succeed Bruce Gottlieb, the Chairman's current Chief Counsel and Senior Legal Advisor, who will be leaving the Commission at the end of July, after four and a half years of service.

[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DOC-299590A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-299590A1.pdf)

On July 6, FCC announced that the next meeting of the Consumer Advisory Committee will take place on Wednesday, August 4, 2010, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Commission's Headquarters Building, Room 3B516, 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20554. It is anticipated that out-of-town Committee members will participate via teleconference with members local to the FCC Headquarters Building participating in person. A limited amount of space in the meeting room will be available for members of the public.

[http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DA-10-1262A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-10-1262A1.pdf)

#### **IV. Related News**

A. Baucus proposes cutting broadband stimulus funds

*Hillicon Valley-July 6, 2010*

Senator Max Baucus (D-Mont.) has proposed cutting \$600 million in stimulus funds for the expansion of broadband Internet access, according to a blog post by Public Knowledge Legal Director Harold Feld.

<http://thehill.com/blogs/hillicon-valley/technology/107361--baucus-proposes-cutting-broadband-stimulus-funds>

B. State Regulators Concerned About FCC Broadband Preemption Propose "Fourth Way" Approach To Reclassifying Broadband

*Multichannel News-July 9, 2010*

FCC chairman Julius Genachowski has proposed a "third way" approach to classifying broadband transmissions as Title II common carrier services, but only applying a handful of those regulations. That approach would also preempt state regulators from applying any regs the FCC was not applying itself.

[http://www.multichannel.com/article/454620State\\_Regulators\\_Concerned\\_About\\_FCC\\_Broadband\\_Preemption.php?rssid=20059&utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+MultichannelBreakingNews+%28Multichannel+News+-+Breaking+News%29](http://www.multichannel.com/article/454620State_Regulators_Concerned_About_FCC_Broadband_Preemption.php?rssid=20059&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+MultichannelBreakingNews+%28Multichannel+News+-+Breaking+News%29)

C. Extending Broadband Service to the Disconnected  
*NY Times-July 9, 2010*

Government stimulus spending is a contentious issue right now in Washington. But the \$7.2 billion in the last stimulus package for extending high-speed Internet access is just beginning to be spent, and the beneficiaries could not be happier.

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/07/10/technology/10broadband.html?src=bsl>

D. Best Buy to offer wireless broadband service  
*Cnet news-July 7, 2010*

Best Buy appears to have quietly launched a wireless broadband service called Best Buy Connect.

[http://news.cnet.com/8301-1035\\_3-20009817-94.html](http://news.cnet.com/8301-1035_3-20009817-94.html)

E. 3.4 Billion Mobile Broadband Subscriptions Expected In 2015, Ericsson Says  
*mocoNews.net-July 9, 2010*

Are high-speed mobile broadband networks a fad? Will people still want to access the internet over a phone in five years?

<http://moconews.net/article/419-3.4-billion-mobile-broadband-subscriptions-expected-in-2015-ericsson-sa/>